BY J. L. PENNINGTON.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

The following are the only terms of subscription to THE DAILY PROGRESS:

Daily Paper, 1 month, $2 00 | Daily Paper, 3 months, $6 00
" " 4 " 4 00 | " " 6 " 10 00

The paper will not be sent to any one without the money in advance; and in all cases it will be stopped when the time paid for expires.

JOB PRINTING.

There being connected with the PROGRESS establishment a Job Office equal to any in the City or State, we are prepared to execute all orders for BOOK and JOB PRINTING. Orders solicited and promptly attended to.

THE DAILY PROGRESS.

VOL. V. RALEIGH, TUESDAY, DEC. 29, 1863. NO. 41.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

[TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FOR THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.]

Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1861, by J. S. Thrasher, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Confederate States of the Northern District of Georgia.

Congressional.

RICHMOND, Dec. 28.—Thin attendance in both Houses today.

Senate Finance Committee introduced a bill that hereafter no Treasury notes to be received in payment of public dues, but shall be fundable in six per cent. bonds and taxable as other property, or in four per cent. bonds and not taxed; all holders of eight per cent. bonds are allowed to exchange for four per cent. bonds. The bill also provides for a new issue of notes to the amount of $250,000,000, receivable in payment of all public dues, except export duties, cotton and such other dues as may be declared payable in specie only, and government be pledged not to issue more than $250,000,000 next year, and not more than 200,000,000 any subsequent year during the war; and not to be fundable at the pleasure of the holder. Revokes all authority heretofore granted to issue notes, except of small denominations. Placed on the calendar.

The same Committee reported a bill to repeal the law authorizing the issue of Cotton bonds. Placed on secret calendar.

The bill on substitutes was taken up and discussed till adjournment. No action taken. A House bill was submitted to authorize the Secretary of War to receive into service Creoles of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. It is stated these Creoles are mixed blood, but free under the treaty of Paris of 1803, a treaty of Spain 1814. Many are owners of slaves, large property and money and were of high intelligence and all true to the South and anxious from the beginning to take up arms and had applied through members of Congress to the Secretary of War who declined to receive them, lest the enemy should make an excuse for arming our slaves. After the Yankees had armed our negroes and put them into their service to shoot down their masters and violate and murder our women, the Secretary of War was again applied to by these people to take them into service, who again declined, because the application was not made through the military authority.

Applications was then made by them to the commander of that department, who referred to the Secretary of War, recommending that they be employed. The Secretary again declined on the ground that it was inconsistent with the position we occupied before the world. It is represented that a brigade could be raised in two or three counties of Alabama, and an equal number in several parts of Mississippi and Louisiana, and that they were honest, had courage and were devoted to the South. They only asked to enter the army as privates.

Another bill was proposed to enroll all able-bodied male slaves between eighteen and forty-five, and from the number thus drafted many can be usefully employed in the army in any way except bearing arms. Both bills were referred to the Military Committee.

The House adopted a resolution instructing the Military Committee to inquire into the alleged abuses by officers in the matter of commutation. It is alleged that Colonels, Majors and Captains employed as ordinary clerks in the war department at Richmond are drawing commutation for room rent, fuel, forage, &c., making their pay more than Major-General in the field. They are also allowed to purchase for themselves and families from the quartermasters' and commissary's at government prices.

A resolution was submitted by Mr. Smith, of Ala., inquiring if the copy-right law embraced telegraphic dispatches to newspapers, and the propriety of repealing that portion. Referred to Judicial Committee.

The Confederate army beyond the Mississippi is said to be in splendid spirits and under good discipline.

A German author defines a woman to be something between a flower and an angel. We think some of them are not much like either.

The Yankees are said to have several negro regiments in North Alabama and are recruiting negroes in Huntsville.

THE PRESIDENT, GEN. JOHNSTON AND GEN. BRAGG.

As a part of the military history of the times, we transfer to our columns the following parts of correspondence which were read in the Senate Monday last. It would be more satisfactory were the correspondence complete but enough is given to show that if the President was mistaken in his estimate of General Bragg as a commander of such an army, he had what ought to have been good authority for the error and really desired to do his duty regardless of personal consideration for Bragg. It will be observed, however, that Gen. Johnston refers in his letters to the operations of the army at Murfreesboro' and the vicinity:

CORRESPONDENCE.

RICHMOND, VA., Jan. 22, 1863.

Gen. J. E. Johnston, Jackson, Miss., and Mobile, Ala.

I wish you with the least delay [illegible] proceed to the headquarters of Gen. Bragg's army. [illegible] will find explanatory letter at Chattanooga.

(Signed) JEFF. DAVIS.

[Extract from copy of letter.]

RICHMOND, VA., Jan. 22, 1863.

Gen. J. E. Johnston, Chattanooga, Tenn.

As announced in my telegram I address this letter to you [explaining] the purpose for which I desire you to proceed promptly to the headquarters of Gen. Bragg's army.

* * * * * * *

You will, I trust, be able by conversation with Gen. Bragg and others of his command, to decide what the best interests of the service require, and to give me the advice which I need at this juncture. As that army is a part of your command no order will be necessary to give you authority there, as whether present or absent, you have a right to direct its operations and do whatever else belongs to the General commanding.

Very truly and respectfully yours,

(Signed) JEFF. DAVIS.

[Extract from letter of Gen. J. E. Johnston.]

TULLAHOMA, Feb. 3d, 1863.

Mr. President—Your telegram ordering me to Gen. Bragg's headquarters was received in Mobile when I was on my way to them. Your letter of January 22d reached me here on the 30th.

* * * * * * *

My principal object has been to ascertain the feeling existing in the regiments, being confident that if the soldiers are not depressed, we can have nothing to fear; for it is not to be supposed that the zeal of general officers can be impaired by any want of confidence in their general's skill. Incessant rain has permitted me to see but a fourth of the troops as yet. They are represented by their field officers to be in high spirits, and as ready as ever for fight.

I am very glad to find that your confidence in Gen. Bragg is unshaken. My own is confirmed by his recent operations, which, in my opinion, evince great vigor and skill. It would be very unfortunate to remove him at this juncture, when he has just earned, if not won, the gratitude of the country.

After seeing all the troops I shall write again. I respectfully suggest that should it then appear to you necessary to remove General Bragg, no one in this army or engaged in this investigation ought to be his successor.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. E. JOHNSTON, Gen'l.

His Excellency the President.

[Extract from a letter of Gen. J. E. Johnston.]

TULLAHOMA, Feb. 12, 1863.

Mr. President—Since writing to you on the 3d, I have seen the whole army. Its appearance is very encouraging, and gives positive assurance of Gen. Bragg's capacity to command. It is well clothed, healthy, and in fine spirits. The brigades engaged at Murfreesboro' are now stronger than they were on the morning of the battle—mainly by the return of the absentees brought back by the General's vigorous system.

* * * * * * *

My object has been to ascertain if the confidence of the troops in the ability of the army to beat the enemy is at all impaired.

I find no indication that it is less than when you were in its camps.

While this feeling exists, and you regard Gen. Bragg as brave and skillful, the fact that some or all of the general officers of the army, and many of the subordinates, think that you might give them a commander with fewer defects, cannot, I think, greatly diminish his value. To me, it seems that the operations of this army in Middle Tennessee have been conducted admirably. I can find no record of more effective fighting in modern battles than that of this army in December, evincing skill in the commander and courage in the troops, which fully entitles them to the thanks of the government.

In the early part of January, the country north of Greneda being considered impracticable, I directed Major General Van Dorn to bring to Gen. Bragg's aid the cavalry of the Mississippi army, except such as Lieut.-Gen. Pemberton considered necessary to him.

* * * * * * *

I have been told, by ——— ———, that they have advised you to remove Gen. Bragg, and place me in command of this army. I am sure that you will agree with me, that the part I have borne in this investigation would render it inconsistent with my personal honor to occupy that position. I believe, however, that the interest of the service requires that Gen. Bragg should not be removed.

Most respectfully, your ob't serv't,

(Signed) J. E. JOHNSTON.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

CIRCULAR.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Nov. 1, 1863.

IN ORDER TO GIVE MORE IMMEDIATE effect and operation to the act of February 15, 1863, intended to provide for "disabled soldiers" (by conferring on them appointments which they may be competent to fill,) it is hereby announced that any "disabled soldier" who may desire a position in the Quartermaster's department should, in order to obtain the same, report to the Chief Quartermaster of the State of which he is a resident, or in which he may be in hospital or on duty at the time of his application, his

Name, | Company,
Age, | Regiment,
Profession or trade, | Brigade, and
Place of abode or station, | Nature of Disibility.

He will state in his application the nature of the position desired, such as clerk, wagon or forage master, &c. &c.

II. Applicants for clerkships will be required to possess a fair knowledge of arithmetic, to write good English, and in a legible hand. For subordinate positions, less will be required.

III. All applications must be supported by vouchers of unimpeachable character, and the sufficiency of witnesses thereunto, if in civil life, must be certified by some justice of the peace, or other county or municipal officer. Where testimonials are from the commanding officers of the applicant, no such certificate will be necessary.

IV. It shall be the duty of the Chief Quartermaster of each State to keep a roster of such applicants, and to place their papers on file for reference; and he will report at the expiration of each quarter the number therefrom, and the number of appointments, to the Quartermaster General.

V. Local Quartermasters will (in case they have made no authorized arrangements for clerks or other employees) be expected to supply themselves, as far as practicable, from the class of "disabled soldiers" thus enrolled, who may be found competent to discharge the duties of the department.

VI. Applications should be accompanied in each case by a copy of the certificate which shows the soldier to be disabled, and should be addressed to the Chief Quartermaster of the State in which he may desire to obtain a position, thus:

"To the Chief Quartermaster of North Carolina, Raleigh."

VII. Post of Chief Quartermasters are as follows:

Virginia,	Richmond.
North Carolina,	Raleigh.
South Carolina,	Charleston.
Georgia,	Augusta.
Alabama,	Montgomery.
Mississippi,	Enterprise.
Florida,	Lake City.
Louisiana,	Alexandria.
Texas,	San Antonia.
Arkansas and Missouri,	Little Rock.
Tennessee and Kentucky,	Knoxville.

VIII. When a place has been found for any applicant, the Chief Quartermaster in whose district the post may be, will proceed at once to obtain, through the regular channels, the detail and assignment to duty of the "disabled soldier" thus provided for.

IX. The earnest co-operation of all officers of the Quartermaster's department in carrying into effect this system, when it can be applied without manifest injury to the public service, is confidently expected.

A. R. LAWTON,
Dec 29-2t Quartermaster General.

Standard copy weekly and semi-weekly twice each; Fayetteville Observer the same; Wilmington Journal daily and weekly twice each; Western Democrat twice weekly. All send bills to Chief Quartermaster W. W. Peirce, Raleigh, with a copy of the paper containing the advertisement.

STEAM ENGINE FOR SALE.

WE OFFER FOR SALE ON GOOD TERMS, AN eight Horse power Engine, said to be in good order, with all necessary fixtures. Early application must be made to W. H. CUNINGGIM, Exchange Hotel, or to the subscriber. WM. E. PELL.
Dec 28-2t*

SERVANT WANTED.

A GOOD NURSE AND HOUSE SERVANT IS wanted for the ensuing year, and for one that can come well recommended a good price will be paid. Apply this day at PROGRESS OFFICE.
Dec 29-1t

WOOD FOR SALE,

BY THE CORD. APPLY AT THIS OFFICE.
Dec 29-2t

NOTICE.

ON THE 14TH DAY OF JANUARY, 1864, AT THE Smithfield Hotel, in Smithfield, I will expose to public sale all the FURNITURE belonging to said house, consisting of Beds and Bedsteads and Furniture, Tables, Washstands, Bowls and Pitchers, Chairs, Andirons, and many other things too tedious to mention. Cash will be received for all if preferred, or six month's time.
Dec 24-14t* T. N. THORNTON.

TO HIRE.

TWO CAREFULLY TRAINED NEGRO WOMEN and a small girl. Homes with quiet, Christian families and kindly treatment more an object than pecuniary compensation. Let applicants leave their names with the Clerk of the Exchange Hotel.
Dec 28-3t*

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT,

RALEIGH, N. C., May 6, 1862.

LEAD WANTED.—I WISH TO PURCHASE LEAD for this department. Persons having large or small quantities will please apply at once. We give 1 pound of POWDER for 10 pound of LEAD.

THOS. HOGG, Capt. C. S. N.
May 8-tf In charge of Ordnance.

NOTICE.

I WILL, ON MONDAY THE 4TH OF JANUARY next, rent my plantation, hire my negroes and sell some perishable property, Corn, Fodder, one young Mule and other articles not necessary to mention. Terms made known on day of sale.
Dec 28-5t* ISAAC W. STALLINGS.

$100 REWARD.

STOLEN FROM MY STABLES, IN THIS CITY, ON Christmas night, a large dark chestnut sorrel, nearly mouse colored flaxen mane and tail, about nine years old, with thin mane and tail, and a curb on the enlargement of the right hind leg. The above reward will be paid for the apprehension of the thief and the recovery of the horse.
Dec 28-tf

AUCTION AND PRIVATE SALES.

SEVEN VALUABLE SLAVES AT AUCTION.

SEVEN VALUABLE SLAVES, INCLUDING MEN, Women and Children, will be sold at auction, in front of our Store, on Wednesday, December 30th, 1863. Terms made known on day of sale.

CREECH & LITCHFORD,
Dec 28-3t* Auctioneers.

SALE OF 25 SLAVES IN HENDERSON, N.C.

ON TUESDAY, THE 5TH JANUARY, 1864, AT Henderson, N. C., on the R. and G. Railroad, I will sell to the highest bidder, for cash, 25 Negroes, among them some valuable house servants.

Dec 28-td S. W. KITTRELL.

FOR SALE.

A COMPLETE SET OF TINSMITH TOOLS, NO. 1 quality, in good order, and only used about one year. Apply to the

Dec 28-2w PROGRESS OFFICE.
Standard copy two weeks.

VALUABLE TRACT OF LAND FOR SALE.

A RARE CHANCE FOR REFUGEES TO PURchase land in this neighborhood. As I have more land than I necessarily need, I offer for sale one of my plantations in Wake county, eight miles East of Raleigh, lying on Neuse river and Beaver Dam Creek, just above the Milburne Paper Mill, containing about 1250 acres, over one-third of which is open for cultivation. The plantation has on it a good dwelling house, together with all other necessary out-houses. The plantation is in good condition to make the next year's crop, and if desired I will sell everything necessary to make a crop. Confederate money taken, or 6 or 8 per cent. bonds preferred. Possession given immediately.

Any one wishing to purchase can address me at Raleigh, N. C., or will be shown the farm in my absence by my neighbor, R. G. Dunn.

Dec 22-tlJ THOS. H. BRIDGES.

PHYSICIAN'S NOTICE.

AT A MEETING OF THOSE PHYSICIANS PRACticing in the city of Raleigh, whose names are subscribed to this publication, held at Dr. Wm. G. Hill's office, on the evening of the 23d instant, it was agreed to and determined upon—

1st. That they would practice in the country after the 1st of January, 1864, and during the unsettled state of prices for the necessary articles of supply and support for themselves and their families, all of which they have to purchase, upon these terms, viz: at old prices when paid in the products of the country at old prices, otherwise their charges will be in proportion to the prices demanded for these products.

2d. In their town practice they will be governed by these circumstances, viz: when they know that their patients are dependent on a stated and limited income from vested funds or salary or wages, they will be moderate in their charges, otherwise they will charge prices corresponding with the times, unless paid in such articles as are needed by themselves and their families at reduced prices, when their charges will be relatively lessened.

Justice and an imposing sense of duty to themselves and their families, which they cannot disregard, impel them to this step, while, on the other hand, equal justice and a proper sense of duty to the public demand that they should make known their purposes and determination.

FABIAS J. HAYWOOD,
WM. G. HILL,
CHAS. E. JOHNSON,
Dec 28-6t W. H. McKEE.

Surgeon General's Office,

RALEIGH, Dec. 24th, 1863.

A MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD, CONSISTing of

Surgeon HENRY JOYNER,
Surgeon R. B. HAYWOOD,

will meet in the town of Oxford, on Wednesday, the 6th of January.

At Roxboro' Person county, on Saturday, the 9th of January.

At Yanceyville, Caswell county, on Monday and Tuesday, the 11th and 12th of January.

At Hillsborough, on Thursday, the 14th of January.

At Graham, in Alamance county, on Saturday, the 16th of January.

At Pittsboro, in Chatham county, on Monday and Tuesday, the 18th and 19th of January, for the purpose of examining all persons claiming exemption from Home Guard duty on account of physical disability.

EDWARD WARREN,
Dec 24-t187 Surgeon General.

LEATHER FOR SALE.

I INVITE THE ATTENTION OF BOOT AND SHOE Manufacturers, &c., &c., to my extensive stock of LEATHER, comprising in part as follows:

400 sides Sole Leather
100 sides Harness Leather
200 sides Wax Upper
150 sides Russett Upper
50 dark Morocco Skins
30 dark Pink Linings
1000 pounds Splits

Tanners supplied with Hides, Oil, Tallow, Lampblack and tools.

G. W. BLUFORD,
Hide and Leather Dealer, Main street,
Dec 21-1w* Richmond, Va.

FOUND,

ON MARKET SQUARE, YESTERDAY, A SMALL Pocket Book, containing a small sum of money.—The owner can have the same by application at this office, describing the same and paying for this advertisement.
Dec 23-tf

WANTED.

FURS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION. WILL PAY the following prices:

Raccoon Skins	50c. to $1
Musk Skins	$1 to 3
Otter Skins	2 to 6
Muskrat Skins	25c. to 50c.

Other kinds in proportion. Address

G. W. BLUFORD,
Dec 21-1w* Hide and Leather Dealer, Richmond.

TO HATTERS.

50 DOZEN SUPERIOR BLACK SKIVERS, FOR sale at $350 per dozen by

G. W. BLUFORD,
Dec 21-1w* Hide & Leather Dealer, Richmond, Va.

NOTICE.

ON THE FIRST DAY OF EVERY MONTH I SHALL send a Special Agent to the Army of Northern Virginia. All packages, &c., sent to me at this place will be promptly forwarded, free of charge.

EDWARD WARREN,
Dec 22 3m Surgeon General, N. C.

BRITTON'S BLUE-BLACK WRITING FLUID,

MANUFACTURED BY J. E. BRITTON, CHARlotte, N. C. A superior article. Southern Manufacture. Try it. All bottles warranted.

I am manufacturing an article of Writing Ink, equal if not superior, to any Inks manufactured North. Ever, person who has tried this Ink speaks well of its quality. It has a blue-black color, and flows freely from the pen. It can be had either wholesale or retail by addressing the subscriber.

For thirteen years, writing done with Ink manufactured from this recipe has been exposed to the sun and air, and is as fast in color, and as good now as when first written with. Orders solicited, and all promptly filled. Address,

J. E. BRITTON,
Charlotte, Mecklenburg Co., N. C.

The following recommendation of the superior quality of the ink is given by the gentleman whose name is annexed. He has used the ink and can speak for its good qualities:

CHARLOTTE, June 3, 1863.

Mr. J. E. Britton:—Dear Sir: I have tried your very excellent Writing Fluid, and can truly say that it is superior to any Ink that I have ever seen manufactured in the South. It is equal if not far better, than any Writing Ink made at the North. Every one who will try this Ink can be sure of getting an excellent article.

REWARDS.

$100 REWARD.

RANAWAY FROM STATESVILLE, N. C., ON Monday, Dec. 7, a slave man. Said man is of medium height, muddy yellow color, black hair, straight, but a little inclined to curl, had on when he left Statesville a glazed cap, very much worn, dark frock coat, black pants. Said negro left Statesville in company with the 56th N. C. Regiment, and is now probably with them, passing himself off as a free man. He can read and write and is known by the name of HENRY WHITE. May have a forged pass. The above reward will be paid for the apprehension of said negro and confinement in any jail so that Wm. P. Moore, of Charlotte, or myself can get him. Said Regiment is now in Randolph co.

JAMES F. LONG,
Dec 14-1w Statesville, N. C.

$500 REWARD.

I WILL GIVE FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS REward for the apprehension and confinement in any jail within the State, of WILLIAM FINN, a notorious horse rogue. Said Finn deserted from Company F, 59th Regiment North Carolina Cavalry about eight months ago, is about thirty years old, about five feet eight or nine inches high, light hair, fair complexion, skin of the face approaching redness, blue eyes, with sharp, keen look, nose somewhat roman, milky outer look, slow to speak, but when he does speak he speaks short. On some occasions he has passed himself by the name of Johnston.

I have reason to believe the said Finn stole from me on the night of the 7th, (this month,) my fine bay MARE, saddle and bridle. The mare was two years old last Spring, sixteen or seventeen hands high, red bay with black mane and tail, several skinned marks in her forehead; the saddle was of Spanish form, with loose hog skin seat, wool padded on the tree; the seat was stitched. I will give a liberal reward for the delivery of my mare, or for any information that will lead to her recovery.

My residence is on Dutch Buffalow Creek, about ten miles South-east from Concord, Cabarrus county. My address, Mt. Pleasant, Cabarrus county, N. C.

WM. A. SMITH,
Nov 16-aowdw Concord, N. C.
Columbia Guardian will publish once a week for 6 weeks.

NOTICE.

HOLDERS OF 8 AND 7 PER CENT CERTIFIcates, (or Coupon Bonds of the Confederate States,) issued by George W. Mordecai, Esq., late Depositary, are hereby informed that their Bonds are ready for delivery at my office in this city.

C. B. HARRISON, C. S. D.,
Dec 22-3t Raleigh, N. C.

LABORERS WANTED.

PIEDMONT R. R., CHIEF ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
Danville, Dec. 7th, 1863.

I WISH TO HIRE TWO HUNDRED ABLE-BODIed negroes to work upon this Rail Road.—They will be exclusively under the care and direction of the Company, and preparations have been made to ensure good quarters, sufficient food and proper medical attention. The work to be done by them lies about half way between Danville and Greensboro' N. C., in a healthy country, and as secure from raids as any to be found. For such hands I will pay the following prices: $52 per month the owner clothing the hand;—for well-grown boys, $25 per month—$300 per annum, the Company furnishing the usual clothing; $200 for the six months from the 1st January, to 1st July, the Company furnishing only the summer clothing; $60 per month, or $400 per annum, for negro carpenters. I will also give employment, during good behavior, to overseers who can bring with them to the work, a force of 12 to 15 men of proper qualifications, and these hands may be worked under them if preferred. For such service I will pay $60 per month and board. To any person who will collect and bring into this office a force of negro men, (subject to my inspection and approval,) hired for the year, or half year, on the above terms, I will pay a bonus of Ten Dollars per capita, for each hand received.

E. T. D. MYERS, Capt. Engineers,
Dec 17-t 10 J Chief Engineer P. R. R.

TO THE HOLDERS OF NORTH CAROLINA EIGHT PER CENT. BONDS.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
RALEIGH, Dec. 17th, 1863.

BY THE TERMS OF THE ORDINANCE OF THE Convention, under which all the 8 per cent. bonds of this State were issued, they are payable at the pleasure of the State; and by the 5th section of the act of the General Assembly, ratified 20th December, 1862, the Treasurer is directed to raise funds as therein prescribed, and to pay off by the 1st day of January, 1865, the State bonds bearing 8 per cent. interest, unless the holders of said bonds will exchange them for 6 per cent. bonds payable on the 1st of January, 1893, with coupons for the interest, payable semi-annually at the Treasury, in which case he is authorised and directed to make such exchange." The Treasury being now provided with the funds contemplated by said Act, I hereby notify all holders of said 8 per cent. bonds, to present them at the Treasury for payment or exchange for 6 per cent. bonds.

JONATHAN WORTH,
Public Treasurer.

The word "by," which is in the act as ratified, is omitted by accident in the printed act. Dec 18-6t

The State Journal and Richmond Examiner will please copy six times and send account to the Treasurer.

Provost Marshal's Office,

RALEIGH, Dec. 14, 1863.

ALL PERSONS RESIDING IN THE CITY OF Raleigh holding substitute papers will present the same at this office as early as possible for examination, as all irregular papers are to be sent to the Bureau of Conscription at Richmond, Va., for approval.

SAMUEL B. WATERS,
Dec 15-2w Capt. and E. O. for city of Raleigh.

NORTH CAROLINA EXPRESS COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT THIS COMpany, chartered at the present session of the Legislature, was, on yesterday, organized. The first meeting of the subscribers for the election of officers, and other business, will be held in the town of Wilmington, on Saturday, 10th of January, 1864.

Dec 19-tawtd. S. L. FREMONT, President.

WANTED.

FOR THE ENSUING YEAR, A GOOD COOK, Washerwomen and Ironer, for which a good hire will be paid. Any person having one will please apply at once at

Dec 19-tf PROGRESS OFFICE.

THE SUBSCRIBER

WILL OPEN A SCHOOL IN THE TOWN OF Pittsboro on Wednesday, the 6th of January next, for the instruction of boys in the Latin, Greek and French Languages, and in the higher branches of English. Board can be obtained on reasonable terms in the village.

JNO. N. WASHINGTON,
Dec 19-16 J Pittsboro, N. C.

WANTED,

$20,000 IN NORTH CAROLINA TREASURY Notes, 1s and 2s, wanted for which the highest premium will be paid.

Oct 29-tf W. R. RICHARDSON & CO.

LAND WANTED.

A REFUGEE WANTS TO PURCHASE A SMALL piece of Land near Raleigh. Apply to the Editor of the Progress. July 31-tf

SALE OF VALUABLE NEGROES.

WILL BE SOLD AT THE MARKET HOUSE, IN Raleigh, on the 1st January, at 12 M., several likely young Negroes. Terms cash. Dec 21-tIJ

BLACK INK! BLACK INK!!

CONGLETON'S VERY SUPERIOR BLACK INK, for sale in large or small quantities. The bottles serve as ink stands. Price per gross $45.

BRANSON, FARRAR & CO.
Dec 18-2w* Raleigh, N. C.

ADVERTISING RATES.

The following rates will be charged for all advertisements inserted in the DAILY PROGRESS:

ONE SQUARE OF EIGHT LINES, OR LESS:

One day	$2 00	One week	
Two days	3 50	Two weeks	
Three days	5 00	Three weeks	
Four days	6 50	One month	
Five days	8 00	Two months	

Fifty words, or eight lines or less count a square; additional squares will be charged the same. Advertisements inserted once, twice or three times a week will be charged $3 a square for every insertion.

When sent by letter, the money must accompany the advertisement. Marriages, deaths, religious and other notices charged as advertisements and must be paid for in advance.

STATE DIRECTORY.

GOVERNMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA.

His Excellency, Zebulon B Vance, Buncombe.
Col David A Barnes, Northampton, Aid.
do George Little, Wake do
Richard H Battle, Jr, Anson, Private Secretary.
Dr Edward Warren, Chowan, Surgeon General.
John P H Russ, Wake, Secretary of State.
Jonathan Worth, Randolph, Public Treasurer.
Curtis H Brogden, Wayne, Comptroller.
Samuel F Phillips, Orange, Auditor.
Ebenezer Emmons, State Geologist.
Olivet H Perry, Wake, State Librarian.
Major General R C Gatlin, Lenoir, Adjutant General.
Captain William B Gulick, Beaufort, Paymaster.
Captain Thomas D Hogg, Wake, Commissary and Ordnance Officer.
Captain James Sloan, Guilford, Quartermaster.
Captain Henry A Dowd, Edgecombe, do
James H. Foote, Iredell, Asst. Adjt. Gen., (Roll of Honor.)
William A. Graham, Jr., Orange, Ass't Adjt. General.
Lieut. John B. Neathery, Wake, Asst. Adjt. General.
Lieut. Thomas White, Franklin, Asst. Quartermaster.

JUDICIAL.

Supreme Court.—Richmond M Pearson, Yadkin, Chief Justice; William H Battle, Orange, and Matthias E Manly, of Craven, Judges; Sion H Rogers, Wake, Attorney General; Hamilton C Jones, Rowan, Reporter; Edmund B Freeman, Clerk. [Meets in the city of Raleigh second Monday in June each year. The Morganton term has been discontinued.]

Superior Courts.—Judges.—John L Bailey, Buncombe; Romulus M Saunders, Wake; Robert R Heath, Chowan; Robt S French, Robeson; James W Osborne, Mecklenburg; George Howard, Wilson; Robert B Gilliam, Granville; William M Shipp, Henderson.

Solicitors.—1st Circuit, Jesse J Yeates, Hertford; 2d Circuit, Charles C Clark, Craven; 3rd Circuit, Sion Rogers, Wake, Attorney General; 4th Circuit, Thomas Settle, Rockingham; 5th Circuit, Ralph Buxton, Cumberland; 6th Circuit, Robert F Armfield, Yadkin; 7th Circuit, William P Bynum; 8th Circuit, Augustus S. Merrimon, Buncombe.

Confederate States District Court.—Hon Asa Biggs, Martin, Judge; George V Strong, Wayne, Attorney; W J Watson, Craven, Clerk; Wesley Jones, Wake, Marshal.

Council of State.—F B Satterthwaite, Pitt; Robert H Dick, Guilford; Dr James Calloway, Wilkes; L Eldridge Johnston; J R Hargrave, Anson; Jesse R Stubbs, Martin; James A Patton, Buncombe.

Literary Board.—His Excellency Gov. Vance, President *ex officio*, Rev William E Pell, Wake, and Professor Richard Sterling, Guilford; Dr. Wm. Sloan, of Gaston; Richard H Battle, Jr, Secretary.

Board Internal Improvements.—His Excellency Governor Vance, President *ex officio*, Wm Eaton, Jr, of Warren, and J H Flanner, of New Hanover. Richard H Battle, Jr, Secretary.

Commissioners of Sinking Fund.—Hon Thomas Ruffin, Alamance, Hon Weldon N Edwards, Warren, and Hon David L Swain, Orange.

The University of North Carolina is at Chapel Hill.—Hon David L Swain, President.

Rev Calvin H Wiley is Superintendent of the Common Schools of the State.

Wiley J Palmer, A M, is Principal of the N C Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and Blind, at Raleigh.

Dr Edward G Fisher is Superintendant of Asylum for the Insane, at Raleigh.

Rev W M Wingate is President of Wake Forest College, (Baptist) which is for the present suspended.

Rev Braxton Craven is President of Trinity College (Methodist.)

Rev ——— ——— is President of Davidson College (Presbyterian.)

Major W M Gordon is Superintendant of the Hillsboro' Military Academy.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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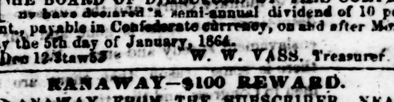

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THIS COMPA ny have declared a semi-annual dividend of 10 per cent., payable in Confederate currency, on and after Monday the 5th day of January, 1864.

W. W. VASS, Treasurer.
Dec 12-3taw6J

RANAWAY—$100 REWARD.

RANAWAY FROM THE SUBSCRIBER, NEAR Raleigh, my negro man SAUNDERS. He is black, about 48 years of age, 5½ feet high; has lost one of his front teeth; is bow-legged, and speaks fluently and politely when spoken to. He is probably endeavoring to reach Newbern. I will give $100 reward for his apprehension, if out of Wake county, and $50 if caught in Wake.

Dec 10-tf HENRY R. BRYAN.

NOTICE!!

THE FIRM HERETOFORE KNOWN UNDER THE appellation of Lack & Farris, has been dissolved by mutual consent. All accounts due the firm, and all to whom the concern is indebted, will please settle and present their claims to C. M. Farris, by whom the business will in future be conducted.

C. M. Farris tenders his acknowledgements to the patrons of the old firm for their liberality and punctuality, and respectfully requests a continuance of the same under his auspices. CHAS. M. FARRIS.
Sept 2-tf

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Aug 21-tf Raleigh, N. C.

NOTICE.

ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE estates of Benj. Marriott, J. K. Marriott, John C. Marriott and Isaac Proctor will present them to me, my Attorney, Sion H. Rogers, of Raleigh, immediately, as I desire to settle up the above estates at once.

[illegible] CHARLES MARRIOTT.
Dec 8-tf

FARM FOR RENT.

WE HAVE A FARM CONTAINING 200 ACRES, lying on the Waters of Swift and Sleepy Hill Creeks, seven miles South of Raleigh, immediately on the Stage Road leading to Fayetteville. A Dwelling and [illegible]

DAILY PROGRESS.

RALEIGH, N. C.

TUESDAY, DEC. 29, 1863.

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☞ **Business Notice.**—The expenses attending the publication of the PROGRESS are enormous and have to be paid promptly, and we must do a cash business or none at all. We must demand cash from all save those business men of the city who have accounts with the office, and parties at a distance are expected to remit promptly when bills are sent. We have no time to collect bills and don't want to make any charges. There never was a better time to pay debts than the present, and all who owe us are requested and expected to pay at once.

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The Press of the country is discussing with much freedom the doings of the present Congress, and especially the substitute and tax measures proposed by that body. There are those among us so foolish and uncharitable as to demur to all criticism or protests against the recommendations of the Executive or the measures of Congress, and some actually go so far as to question the loyalty of all who raise a voice against military usurpations, unconstitutional taxation, unlawful impressments, &c. They confound the administrators of the law, those who should be the nation's guardians, with the government itself, and charge those who refuse to laud and praise infringements that they dispise, as enemies to the Confederacy. It is very well known that we were opposed to this war and did all we could to prevent it, but when the issue was made up and North Carolina took her position, we conceived it to be our duty, right or wrong, to go with her and act with those to whom she had pledged her faith, and we have tried to do our duty. We have sacrificed the labors of years to follow the destinies of the new government and we shall not desert it, and yet while freedom of speech is granted to us we mean to enter our solemn protest against all inovations, encroachments and usurpations by those in authority. If we cannot achieve our independence without first becoming the subjects of a tyranny, such as Senator Brown proposes, we cannot do it at all, and we hope this people will never submit to the military despotism that such an assumption of power would fasten upon them.

Since the withdrawal of North Carolina from the Union in May 1861, we have desired the independence of the South above all things, and would make any sacrifices in common with our fellow citizens for its accomplishment, but the oppressions of the old government were never so odious as to make us willing to become the subject of a military despotism to escape from them. We must be free in the means as well as the end. Let those in power keep faith with the citizen and respect the sacrifices the masses are making in a common cause, and devote their time and talents to the common weal instead of efforts to increase their powers and enslave the people, and we will be free; for an overruling Providence will never suffer such a people to be subjugated if true to themselves; but, if in addition to the conscription of the principals of substitutes, the propositions of Senator Brown are adopted and the whole country and all its citizens placed under military law—made amenable to military courts and the subjects of a military despotism—our cause is gone and our disgrace and enslavement speedy and sure. We trust in God that there is some reason, that there are some Statesmen in Congress and that these ruinous measures will be arrested before it is too late. We are a native of North Carolina, loyal to the State that give us birth and to the cause she has espoused, and we should be recreant to the sacred memories that cluster around her fair escutcheon did we not raise our feeble voice against the tyranny which the body now assembled at Richmond seems determined to fasten on us.

We do not know that Mr. Davis desires any such powers as Senator Brown proposes to confer upon him; we hope he does not, and that he will protest against the measures proposed by that gentleman, for as sure as they are adopted, our doom is sealed and the Confederacy itself will soon be numbered among the things that were.

For the benefit of such of our people as consider all censure and criticism of the acts of Congress and the Executive enmity to the Government, we publish two very strong articles to-day, one from the Petersburg *Express*, on the "Substitute Bill;" and another from the Charleston *Mercury*, on "Unconstitutional Taxation." These are more severe on Mr. Davis and the Congress than anything we have written, and yet there are no sounder or more loyal papers in the Confederacy. If this freedom of the press is left us, and the acts of our rulers and law-makers can be held up to the light of day, and men in office be made responsible to the people for their acts, we may reasonably expect to succeed in establishing our independence and in transmitting to our children a Republican form of government; but if the freedom of the press and of speech be swept away and all power be vested in the hands of one man, and a military despotism be submitted to by a people who are fighting for liberty, we shall neither achieve or deserve freedom.

We beg our readers to examine carefully the articles mentioned from the *Express* and *Mercury*.

No Peace.

The Savannah *Republican*, speaking of the tabling of Wood's resolution to send peace Commissioners to Richmond, in the Federal Congress, says: "We hope all the peace men of the Confederacy, and especially the North Carolina lunatics, will now rest satisfied, and abandon their folly." Just so they talked about us because we did not *secede* before breakfast. We were called lunatics and traitors then because we were not fast enough, and now, wishing to arrest the strife before the ruin of the whole South is thorough and complete, we are lunatics because we are too fast. We are called lunatics because we are not base enough to conceal facts and try to keep up a deception that has brought ruin on the country.

Wood's resolution was rejected, 95 to 59, but is that any reason why the friends of peace, North and South, should cease their efforts? By no means.—The 59 members of Congress that voted for sending Commissioners want peace, and they represent constituencies that want peace, and it is the duty of the peace men of the South—all who prefer peace to military despotism and eventual ruin—to co-operate with them until a peace is made. It is not likely that any peace will ever be established that will satisfy the radical abolitionist or the "lunatic" secessionists, and yet we think that a peace could be made, were negotiations once commenced, that would satisfy the great conservative masses of the two sections. We are decidedly in favor of an effort being made and think it should be made at once, and if this constitutes a "lunatic" then we are one.

In the same number of the *Republican* that those persons who favor efforts to obtain a peace are called lunatics, we find the following doleful paragraph:

"Flour is held here at $128 per barrel, and there is not a bushel of corn, meal or grist in the city for sale. We bought the last named article ourselves in the market on Saturday at the rate of sixteen dollars per bushel."

And we can tell the *Republican* that Savannah is no worse off than the other large towns and cities of the Confederacy in the matter of bread and provisions, and yet we are told, upon empty stomachs, that the last man must be conscripted and we must fight on until we conquer a peace. The only peace we can ever obtain must come by negotiation and the sooner we treat for it the better will be the terms we shall obtain.

For the Progress.]

MR. EDITOR.—In your paper of the 21st inst., you insert an extract from an Atlanta paper; and in your comments upon it, you use the following language:

"Those of us who left our homes and property in Eastern Carolina have experienced much of that "cordial greeting" here spoken of, and the unanimous opinion now is that we were fools for leaving our property to cast our lot with those who are continually chiding us for being in their way."

It is not my purpose to offer any opinion on the propriety of the conduct "of those of us who left our homes and property in Eastern Carolina."—Whether those who left were "fools," time will determine. But I do object to the idea you convey by the expression, "those who are chiding us for being in their way."

On my way with my family to this place, more than a year ago, I met a friend in Raleigh who remarked to me, "you will find no sympathy for the refugee." I arrived here and was met by acquaintances and strangers with the warmest feelings of sympathy. The citizens vied with each other in acts of kindness. Every effort was made to add to our comfort—bedding, furniture, and articles for housekeeping were kindly offered and loaned to us.

I have met with many refugees from the low country, and conversed with them, and I have heard but few complaints, and many expressions of gratitude for kindness from the people in the middle and western parts of the State. If there are other places which deserve the remarks you make, I beg leave to say that it does not apply to the people of Chapel Hill. They have done all we could ask to add to our comfort; and, as one, I beg leave to tender them my sincere thanks. "REFUGEE."

CHAPEL HILL, Dec. 28, 1863.

[We cheerfully give place to the above, and have no doubt but all that "Refugee" says about the generous behavior of the people of Chapel Hill is deserved. We have been the recipient of much kindness ourself, here and in Alamance county, for which we trust our household are sufficiently grateful, and yet we are compelled to say, from what we have seen, experienced and heard, the majority of the people look on refugees as being in their way, and would much rather they had staid at home. We weighed the matter well before we came out and have never regretted the step, and still we believe it would have been better for all to have staid—better for them and for the Confederacy. We came out to stay until the war is over and shall do so regardless of consequences, but we have no censure for those who wish to return because they cannot support themselves out here.—ED. PROGRESS.]

For the Progress.]

MR. EDITOR: I send you the following translation from the history of the French Marine, by M. Le Comte de Lapeyrouse Bouflis. The writer, in discribing the part France took in the first American Revolution, gives a dark picture of affairs at that period. I translate:

"The reverse at Savannah gave a sad blow to public spirit in America. The patriotic sentiment which animated the insurgents at the commencement of the war, had given place to discouragement and a disastrous selfishness. Each Province wished to protect itself, the Generals were jealous of each other, Congress, without authority, found itself the butt of criticisms the most unjust. Utopian ideas the most diverse upon politics and the constitution of the Provinces found their way in the midst of that crisis and divided the citizens, who, discouraged, were at a loss what policy to pursue, and were alarmed at the tendency of minds towards dangerous ideas. The federal republic—object of the wishes of the greater number—appeared to them a danger very great in presence of a formidable enemy.

"The love of gain—that ardent passion of the American people, engrossed the minds of the citizens to the exclusion of every other more noble sentiment. No one wished to serve the common cause without great pecuniary gain. Public offices were sold to the highest bidder—corruption and vices followed—selfishness and indifference for the general interests spread themselves throughout the country. In that extremity Washington and Congress made known to France that they could no longer count upon the army, and that American liberty was lost if she did not quickly send assistance in men and money."

Such, Mr. Editor, is the picture of "the times that tried men's souls"—and a dark picture it is. Let us briefly compare the condition of the Southern Confederacy in this her darkest hour of trial, with that of the Provinces prior to the acknowledgment of their independence.

In 1779 the chief of the Provincial army made known to France that he could no longer rely upon his troops, and that the cause of American liberty was lost if he did not receive assistance. That assistance came, and with it hope, confidence and, eventually, independence.

The chief of the Southern Confederacy, in his late message to Congress, boldly proclaims to the world the entire ability of the South to maintain her liberties, and simply demands of foreign powers the rights guaranteed to belligerents by the law of nations. He does not ask England, France or any other power to come and fight our battles, for he can point with pride to large and well organised armies of gallant Southerners defiantly facing their enemies, but asks of them only that Confederate gold may buy ships and munitions of war as readily as that of our foes—that is all that he expects of them at the present. But should there still be in reserve for the young Confederacy a more fiery ordeal than that through which she is now passing, should darkness and gloom overshadow our cause, and the most steadfast patriots begin to despair—may we not trust that Providence will again come to our assistance and vouchsafe to us the blessings for which Southern christians have so long and devoutly prayed—peace and independence. Let us hope so.

Again: it is said there was a want of harmony and concert of action between the Provinces, and that jealousy and ill-feeling existed among their commanders. The Southern States are a unit, each one rallying around the central government with an enthusiasm and spirit of emulation which do honor to themselves and their cause.

The French author sketches a dark picture of the moral condition of the times during the old revolution.

Now, Mr. Editor, I shall not attempt to gloss over the sins of the Southern people, for we have been exceedingly sinful and still are, otherwise our chastisement would not be upon us; but I think I may confidently assert that there is as much pure Christianity in the South as among any people on the face of the globe. True it is, we have among us speculators, extortioners and various other classes of sinners; but they have existed in every age, in every clime. The Roman people, under the Commonwealth, have been handed down to us as eminently distinguished for their patriotic and self-sacrificing conduct in the hour of their country's greatest need; and yet, after the battle of Canne, when Rome found herself with but the remnant of an army, and with but scanty means for the equipment of another, when Roman matrons were transporting and casting into the public Treasury their silver and gold and jewels, there were speculators and extortioners who were thirsting for the last drop of their country's life-blood. Yes, as I have before said, they have existed in every age, in every clime; and I am fearful they will continue to exist until satan shall be chained and no longer permitted to take possession of the hearts and consciences of men.

I have thus briefly noticed the condition of the South as compared with that of the colonies in their darkest hour. Certainly we have much to be thankful for, much to boast of, and much to hope for. Let us rally around our Chief. Errors he has committed without doubt. But who is infallible? One of his chief errors was his departure from the defensive policy which he at first assumed. But who is responsible for that? Let the Press of the South answer.

P.

From the Charleston Mercury.]

UNCONSTITUTIONAL TAXATION.

The President of the Confederate States, as his justification for his recommendation to Congress that the Constitution should be violated in its provision with respect to direct taxation, alleges, first—that these provisions cannot be carried into effect; and, secondly, that it would be unjust to carry them into effect.

Admitting both of these allegations to be true, they form no justification for the usurpation he proposes. They should simply lead him to go to his principals—the States—of which he and Congress are restricted agents, and lay the matter before them. Suppose a number of planters on the Mississippi river should employ an agent in their behalf, and with their means, to build a dyke or levee on the river, to protect their lands from inundations; on these means falling short, what would be thought of their agent, if he should attempt to seize the slaves of the planters and sell them to raise the means to carry on the work? Every one would condemn the insolent outrage; and would recognize but one course of duty for him to pursue, and that would be to lay his deficiency of means to complete the work before his employers, and leave it to them to furnish the means for its completion or not, as they should deem expedient. This is exactly the case now between the Coefederate government and the Confederate States. The former is the mere creature and agency of the latter. This was disputable, or at least disputed, with regard to the Central Government, under the Constitution of the United States; but is not questionable under the Constitution of the Confederate States. It matters not, therefore, what powers the Confederate States have thought proper to withhold from Congress—or what powers cannot be carried out in the constitutional compact these sovereignties have made between themselves—Congress has no power but what is granted. The absence of a clause, or the inadequacy of any clause, in the Constitution, to accomplish any object, is exclusively a matter for their consideration and action. For the Confederate Congress to usurp the power to accomplish it, is precisely the grievance which induced the Confederate States to dissolve their union with the United States. The precedents and demoralizations of Washington seem to be undying, even in the Confederate States.

Nor has any one a right to presume that the Sovereign States composing the Confederacy are unwilling or incapable of meeting the necessities of their Confederacy. But for their gratuitous aid, in supplying to our armies the necessities which the Confederate government, from a want of foresight and energy, failed to supply, our cause would long since have failed. But, let them be ever so weak or incompetent to conduct their affairs, the Confederacy is theirs—the Constitution is theirs—and any usurpations of power by their agency—the Confederate government—are simply without authority, and must be null and void.

But is it true, as the President alleges, that the provisions of the Constitution with respect to direct taxes cannot be carried into effect?—and, if they could, that the injustice produced would forbid their imposition?

If the words of the Constitution are to be disregarded, and its spirit to be followed, as the President affirms, then we say that direct taxes can be laid, and justly laid, with all the limitations prescribed by the Constitution.

The Constitution says:

"Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several States."

It there prescribes the number of Representatives each State shall have for the three years preceding the taking of the census. In assigning these Representatives to the different States, it is notorious that the Convention which framed the Constitution apportioned them in conformity to the last census—the census of 1860—taken by the United States.—This census was taken by the Confederate States when a part of the United States. It showed not only the number of free persons, but also the number of slaves in each district and county in the Confederate States; and three fifths of the slaves entered into the representation prescribed for every State.—Now, as each State has practically the apportionment of three-fifths of their slaves in their representation, why should not a corresponding apportionment for direct taxes, required by the Constitution, be carried out? That the Constitution meant these two things—representation and direct taxation—to go together, there can be no doubt. If the one exists—representation for three-fifths of slaves—the other—direct taxation—ought to be an accompanying sequence. Does the Constitution forbid it? It clearly does in the clause which prescribes that "no capitation or other direct tax shall be laid unless in proportion to the census or enumeration hereinbefore directed to be taken." The framers of the Confederate Constitution, whilst practically carrying out the apportionment of three-fifths of the slaves in the representation they prescribed, during the three years within which the census is to be taken, seem not to have anticipated the necessity of laying direct taxes during this period. Hence the power is not conferred on Congress until the census is taken. But if there is to be any usurpation in the matter, and the spirit of the Constitution is to be carried out, then we say, with confidence, lay direct taxes on land and slaves, and apportion them amongst the States, as their representation is already apportioned. Nor need there be any injustice, as the President affirms, in the apportionment of such taxes. The number of slaves in every State and District in the Confederate States is disclosed by the census of 1860, which governed the representation allowed in the Constitution. By the acts of the United States, imposing direct taxes (good precedents, we presume, to show their operation), they were apportioned not on the States aggregately, but upon the several districts of each State. If any State or any district is in the possession of the enemy, the taxe- would not be apportioned upon them.—The President's idea, therefore, that the laying of direct taxes, according to the Constitution, would be very unjust, because it would lay upon the portions of the States in our possession the burden of the taxes of other portions of the States in the possession of the enemy, is without foundation. Admit the power to lay such taxes, and no injustice need follow their imposition.

Instead of this plain course, which the actual representation and the whole spirit of the Constitution requires should be pursued, if land and slaves are to be taxed, what is the course recommended by the President? Why, to disregard utterly the whole compromise and all the limitation the Constitution contains in taxing land and slaves, and boldly to usurp the power to tax them simply as property, on a valuation, we presume, in Confederate currency!—And in recommending such an outrage on the Constitution, he alleges that he is carrying out "the spirit of the Constitution"! The Constitution says that taxes on land and slaves shall "be apportioned amongst the States." It is fulfilling the spirit of the Constitution to tax them without any such apportionment! The Constitution says that representation and direct taxes shall correspond with each other. He would carry out the spirit of the Constitution by laying direct taxes without regard to either! The Constitution says that "no capitation or other direct tax shall be laid, unless in proportion to the census or enumeration herein before directed to be taken." No census having been taken, he would lay direct taxes, in flat contravention of this prohibition; and does it to carry out "the spirit of the Constitution"! The Constitution prescribes that two-fifths of the slaves and two-fifths of the land in the Confederate States shall not be taxed at all. He affirms that "the spirit of the Constitution" requires that they shall be rigorously taxed! According to this conception of "the spirit of the Constitution," it is a sort of *felo de se*, by which the Constitution very logically destroys itself. Heretofore, "the spirit of the Constitution" has been supposed to be its life.—Here, it is death. If, by this reasoning of the President, the plain mandates and prohibitions of the Constitution may rightfully be set aside—then, we hesitate not to say, that he may be ejected from office at any time by a majority of Congress. They may affirm that he does not carry out "the spirit of the Constitution" in that fidelity, integrity and energy the Constitution requires; and, therefore, in spite of that clause of the Constitution which secures to him his office for six years, he shall be removed from office without impeachment. Even his veto may not avail him. By "the spirit of the Constitution" that, too, may be abolished. Under such statesmanship, confusion and despotism is our inevitable doom.

From the Petersburg Express.]

THE SUBSTITUTE BILL.

Contrary to our hopes, the Confederate House of Representatives has passed by a large majority, a bill not only remanding back to the service all persons who have employed substitutes, without refunding a dollar of the money which was paid the latter by the former, but retaining in service even the substitutes themselves. We are utterly unable to express the emotions which we feel in contemplating an act marked with such gross and extraordinary injustice. It will excite not only dissatisfaction, but indignation, throughout the Confederacy, and it ought to excite such feelings. What is it but a cool, wanton and deliberate violation of the plighted faith of government, by which vested rights, hitherto sacredly regarded, because held to be inviolable, are mercilessly and upon the flimsiest pretexts swept away. We have from the first intimation that such a movement would be made in Congress, maintained that the relations between the government and those who have furnished substitutes were those which pertain to a contract.—The Governor of Virginia (high authority) expressed the same opinion in the most positive terms in his late message to the Legislature. So, at all events, we are not alone in the position which we occupy. We think that we have it in our power to establish the correctness of our view on this subject, and will in as few words as possible endeavor to do so. It was but the other day asserted by the advocates of the new bill that if there was any contract in the case it was between the principal and the substitute, and therefore a private one, with which the government had nothing to do. It was thus admitted to be a contract between the soldier and his substitute, whilst it was denied to be one between the government and the soldier. This was the position assumed by the friends of the bill soon after the meeting of Congress. Our own decided opinion always has been that in point of equity, if not in strict law, it was as much a contract between the government and the soldier as between the soldier and the substitute; for the substitute law, that has just been repealed, as good as declared to the soldier in *totidem verbis*, that if he would put in a substitute not liable to conscription and otherwise unexceptionable to serve during his term, he would be discharged from the service. What was this but pledging the faith of the government to respect and observe the act of substitution? If it was not this, then it was a snare and a delusion by which to entrap the unsuspecting victims, as it will turn out, if this bill becomes a law.

A enters into a written obligation with B to release him from the payment of his bond which he holds, if he will do a certain thing that amounts to a valuable consideration. B does it, and then A plumply refuse to release him. Is not this a violation of faith? No other honest construction can be put upon it.

But there is a stronger argument to sustain our opinion. The admission of a contract between the soldier and the substitute effectually settles the question—for by what authority was this contract made? Simply based only by the authority of an act of Congress designed on its face expressly to cover and protect that contract. When Congress, therefore, authorized the soldier and the substitute to enter into their contract and to make it the basis of a discharge of the soldier from service during the term for which he was enlisted, it made itself to all intents and purposes a party to the contract, and when the substitute was accepted and the principal discharged, in conformity with the provisions of the act, the Government too became a party. If we have here not the evidence of a solemnly pledged faith, [illegible] of Congress and the Government, then [illegible] to prove what pledged faith is.

But again. If the transaction between the principal and the substitute be a contract, as it is admitted to be, by what rule of justice or morality, does House of Representatives interfere to annul it?

If the Government be not a party to the contract but has endorsed it, as it has done by receiving substitute and discharging the principal, what has it, pending the term of service covered by contract, to dissolve it? When was such an invasion of private, vested rights, viewing the matter, for argument sake, simply as a private contract between the principal and his substitute, ever heard of before in the land of the South? Just see the extreme length to which this most outrageous enactment pushed. Not only is the contract broken upon only is the principal, who has, under the express sanction of a law of Congress employed a substitute at a heavy pecuniary cost, and received his discharge in due form from the proper officer of the government, to be carried back to the service, but even substitute himself is to be held in the service also, though he is past the conscription age—although he may be 60 years old—and why? In the [illegible] which the new bill makes to this question one of the most monstrous of its features. Because the substitute has contracted or assumed as stated the obligations and liability of the principal. Hear the very words of the bill: "Provided, that nothing in the foregoing clause shall be so construed as to relieve the substitute from any obligations or liability contracted or assumed by him as such substitute."

Could a more revolting piece of legislative [illegible] conceived than this? What does it amount to? The Government is empowered by Congress to take advantage of its own wrong—first to break up a contract between itself and the principal, then to break up a contract between the principal and his substitute, and then so to construe the terms of the new contract, thus violated by itself, as to compel the substitute to continue in the service when he is by reason of *age* exempted from it. The rescinding of a contract has been universally held as the extinguishment of all its obligations. The parties then stand towards one another precisely as they did before the contract was made. But here we see a contract rescinded by arbitrary power, and that power, at the same time professing not to be a party to it, (but in fact,) holding the substitute to all the obligations and liabilities incurred by him in the cancelled instrument.

We could consume columns in discussing the iniquities of this amazing bill. After getting through we find ourselves scarcely past the threshhold of what we intended to say. But we have no room to say much more. We do trust that for the honor of our country, and for the good name of our government the Senate will put the seal of its reprobation on this bill so well calculated to compromise both. There are plenty of soldiers for the army, if the government, as it is its duty to do, will drive back to the army the *stragglers and absentees* now overrunning the cities and rural districts of the South. Until this is done there will be no plea for resorting to other sources. The bill just passed will spread dissatisfaction in every direction. It will most assuredly result in a very large portion of the people the greatest discontent, for when a government violates its [illegible] lays immediately the foundation for the most [illegible] distrust in all its obligations. If it can repudiate one kind of contract, it can repudiate another, and as necessity is the argument in the present case, necessity may be the future argument for repudiating any and every other engagement by which it may be bound. We call upon the Senate to consider this matter in all its lights and bearings, and either to reject the bill which we are animadverting, or put it in a shape that will strip it of the odium with which it is now covered.

We are devoted to the cause for which we are struggling. We are willing to incur all proper sacrifices, endure all unavoidable hardships and privations for its sake. We love our country as we do our own hearthstones, and are willing to spend and be spent for it. But save the honor—the good name—the lofty moral reputation—of our government and people. These are towers of strength which should not be weakened or destroyed by violations, or even the semblance of violations of public faith in any instance. Congress should shun every act susceptible of a construction that would render it morally obnoxious to honest and honorable minds in this and other lands.

A friend has called to tell us that he saw [illegible] Morgan in Greensboro on Thursday last, that he spent an hour there, was introduced to the crowd who gathered to pay their respects to him by [illegible] Morehead, and left for Danville, where an anxious loving wife awaited his coming. We rejoice at the escape of the gallant hero and trust he may soon be able to pay his respects to the *porkers* around Cincinnati.

GEN. THOMAS JEFFERSON GREEN died at his residence, in Warren county, N. C., on the 12th inst. in the 62d year of his age.

Gen. Green was a man of active enterprise and [illegible] and kindly disposition, and had been a participant in many stirring scenes as almost any man ever knew. He figured as General in the Texan War of independence, a member of the Texan Congress, the leader of the Mier expedition, one of the band of "Mier Prisoners" and subsequently historian of that transaction. He was afterwards a State Senator in California and Major General of the militia of that State. He was a thorough and devoted friend of the Confederate cause, giving of his means liberally, and extending an unlimited hospitality to refugees.

The Yankee prisoners are having a hard time at Danville. The *Register of the 25th* says:

The small pox continues to spread among the Yankee prisoners. We understand that there are now about three hundred cases in all. Virus has been furnished by their own Government for the purpose of having them vaccinated, and as it has been generally administered the prevalence of the disease must in a measure be diminished. The fatality among the prisoners from this and other maladies is very great. Several wagon loads are hauled out to the grave yard every day, from the General Hospital, besides those who die of small pox.

MARRIED,

In this City, on the 24th inst., at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. Thos. H. Pritchard, Mr. W. G. UPCHURCH, to Miss E. M. UPCHURCH, all of this City.

Mr. Editor—Have the kindness to inform your numerous readers in the Western Ward that the Indefatigable Col. W. H. H. TUCKER will be voted for as Commissioner by MANY CITIZENS.

Dec 28-3t*

NOTICE TO DEBTORS.

ALL CLAIMS, ACCOUNTS, &c., DUE THE LATE O. T. Iredell have been placed in my hands by the administrator for collection. All persons indebted to the said deceased are requested to make prompt payment. I may be usually seen at P. F. Pescud's Drug Store, between the hours of 11 and 1.

Dec 28-4t J. J. LANSDELL.

NOTICE.

HEREAFTER THE DEPOSITAOY AT RALEIGH will pay the interest on Registered Bonds or Stock heretofore paid by the Depository at Wilmington, but the Depository at Wilmington, N. C., will continue to pay Coupons as well as the Depository at Raleigh.

O. F. JONES,

Dec 28-1w Acting Register, Richmond, Va.